

A laser beam scanner converges a laser beam by using a first $f\theta$ lens and a second $f\theta$ lens in a main-scanning direction and in a sub-scanning direction, respectively, onto a photosensitive medium, thereby forming a scanning line on the photosensitive medium along the main-scanning direction. Before scanning the photosensitive medium, the laser beam that has passed through and been converged by the first $f\theta$ lens, but not passed through the second $f\theta$ lens, is guided to a beam detector and converged by a cylinder lens in the sub-scanning direction so that the laser beam falls within a detection area of the beam detector. The beam detector determines a scan start time by detecting the laser beam.